



BRAD LITTLE  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF IDAHO  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT

4040 W. GUARD STREET, BLDG. 600  
BOISE, IDAHO 83705-5004

MG MICHAEL J. GARSHAK  
ADJUTANT GENERAL



BRAD RICHY  
DIRECTOR

March 15, 2023

Congressman Mike Simpson  
2084 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Mackay Dam Community Project Funding (CPF) Letter of Support

Dear Congressman Simpson:

The Idaho Office of Emergency Management supports the CPF application for Mackay Dam spillway improvements to mitigate the risk of damages from earthquake and flooding to the cities of Mackay and Arco, Custer and Butte Counties, as well as the Idaho National Laboratory, and the Big Lost River Irrigation District. The project will remove and replace the primary spillway, reline the outlet tunnel, and move controls downstream to prevent the dam from overtopping.

Custer County applied through the 2021 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program on behalf of Big Lost River Irrigation District, but the application was not selected for funding. The county regards this project a high priority and re-submitted the Mackay Dam application recently for 2022 BRIC funding. The Idaho Office of Emergency Management (IOEM) is willing to serve as the recipient and administrative agent on behalf of Custer County. Should the project be approved through CPF, the county would withdraw the 2022 BRIC application.

This project is ranked number one by IOEM for Homeland Security bill-wide priorities. We appreciate your consideration and support of the Mackay Dam project.

Sincerely,

Susan Cleverley, CFM  
Mitigation Section Chief  
State Earthquake Program Manager



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF  
**WATER RESOURCES**

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Governor Brad Little

Director Gary Spackman

March 17, 2023

U.S. Representative Mike Simpson  
Idaho District 02  
2084 Rayburn Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Mackay Dam and Reservoir  
Repair and Rehabilitation

IDWR File: 34-2225  
NATDAM: ID00181

Dear Congressman Simpson,

Please accept this letter from the Idaho Department of Water Resources (Department) offering support for all effort and funding mechanisms that will help improve the physical condition of the referenced dam and thus extend the continued benefits that this 100-year-old facility provides to residents of the Big Lost River valley and the state of Idaho.

We understand you are aware of funding opportunities that may be available to assist the Big Lost River Irrigation District reduce the risk to the downstream population through the implementation of a preferred design alternative for enlarging the flow capacity of the emergency overflow spillway and rehabilitating the existing gate tower that controls the outlet gates and release of water from the reservoir into the Big Lost River.

IDWR Dam Safety considers MacKay to be among the top ten hydraulic structures in the state most in need of repair given the urgency presented by the dam's location relative to the community of Mackay immediately downstream. Further downstream, the location of the U.S. Department of Energy facilities is another important reason to pursue remediation of MacKay Dam. The existing reservoir provides irrigation water for agriculture on which much of the economy of the Big Lost River valley depends. The dam also helps attenuate flooding adjacent to the Big Lost River that otherwise could negatively impact downstream property. Lastly, the 45,000 acre-feet of impounded water annually provides recreational opportunities for tourists and residents alike.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Department with any questions or concerns that may arise regarding Mackay Dam. We are available to provide any information about the dam, its long history, and the importance that its continued viability presents to the region.

Respectfully,

Mathew Weaver, PE Deputy Director





NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Idaho Water Resource Board contact: **Brian Patton, Chief, Planning Bureau, 208-287-4800**

## **Idaho Water Resource Board approves funding for multiple major water infrastructure projects with federal ARPA and state surplus funds**

HAILEY - (Sept. 19, 2022) – The Idaho Water Resource Board voted to spend approximately \$87 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds on a number of major water infrastructure projects statewide in its regular meeting on Friday held at the Community Campus here in Hailey, Idaho.

The Board authorized spending \$72.9 million to pay for the state's share of the cost to raise Anderson Ranch Dam by six feet to create an additional 29,000 acre-feet of storage water; \$8.3 million for two, new Upper Snake Basin aquifer-recharge projects to benefit the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA); and \$5 million for the initial costs associated with design and contracting the Mountain Home Water Resiliency project, a pump station and pipeline from the Snake River to the Mountain Home Air Force Base for municipal water supply.

The Board also authorized \$12.5 million in grant funding for 12 Aging Infrastructure Projects and approved six low-interest loans totaling \$18.1 million to assist irrigation entities with the aging infrastructure projects.

The Idaho Water Resource Board received 31 applications for the first go-round of the Aging Infrastructure Grant program, and 16 applications for low-interest loans to cover costs in replacing aging irrigation infrastructure projects. All of the projects were ranked and scored by staff, following the evaluation criteria approved by the Board. Several irrigation entities applied for and received a combination of grant and loan funds.

For example, Enterprize Canal Company received a \$2.73 million Aging Infrastructure Grant and a \$6.3 million low-interest loan to finance the rehabilitation of its water-conveyance system. Enterprize delivers water to 5,436 acres of farmland in Bonneville and Jefferson counties.

"Thank you," said an emotional Darrell Kerr with Enterprize Canal Company, based in Ririe. "This is critical for our well-being."

During the 2022 session, the Idaho Legislature appropriated \$75 million to the Idaho Water Resource Board to be "used for expenditures, loans, or grants for water projects, including studies, to address water sustainability, rehabilitate or improve aging water infrastructure or support flood management." House Bill 769 provided that "no more than one-third of these moneys shall be used for grants."

**Background on federal and state funds:** The 2022 Idaho Legislature set aside \$250 million of the State's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to support water projects managed by the Idaho Water Resource Board that qualify under the federal guidance, including the enlargement of Anderson Ranch Reservoir, the Mountain Home AFB water supply project, and managed recharge projects on the ESPA. The Legislature appropriated \$100 million from the ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund for use by the Board in fiscal year 2023, with the expectation that an additional \$50 million will be allocated the Board annually through fiscal year 2026. Where possible, the Board will use ARPA funding in lieu of state funds previously appropriated for priority water projects. This will free up state monies for additional, future water projects, officials said.

The total cost of raising Anderson Ranch Dam by six feet is currently estimated to be \$83.3 million. The \$72.9 million allocation of ARPA funding will satisfy the state's non-federal, cost-share obligation for the project, based on current estimates. The Bureau of Reclamation is expected to provide revised estimates in the spring of 2023 based on revised engineering and design work.

Wesley Hipke, ESPA recharge project manager for the Board, detailed two new ESPA recharge projects in the Upper Snake region that required new funding to move forward:

- Goyne Sump is an injection well near Lake Walcott that would have a recharge capacity of 100 cubic feet per second. Funding for the project would connect a Minidoka Irrigation District canal to the injection well site, and add pumps and capacity to existing infrastructure. The Board allocated \$3.38 million to that project.
- Hamer Road recharge site near the existing Egin Bench recharge site. In that project, the Board would develop a new 291-acre recharge basin in lava fields on Bureau of Land Management property. Potential recharge capacity is 200 cfs. Board staff will work on permitting with the BLM and engineering and design to develop that site. The Board allocated \$5 million to that project.

For the Board to meet its goal to recharge an average of 250,000 acre-feet of water into the ESPA each year, it needs more recharge sites in the Upper Snake region, Hipke said. Water Board members agreed.

"To make our goal, we're going to need every site possible, especially in the Upper Snake," said Dean Stevenson, Rupert-based Water Board member. "We need to get significant volume out of the Upper Snake. These are the best two sites that we've looked at so far."

In addition to \$5 million allocation for the Mountain Home AFB Water Resiliency Project, the Board authorized execution of a Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Air Force that broadly outlines responsibilities and design parameters required to merge the water treatment plant being constructed by the Air Force and the pipeline and pump station being constructed by the Board. The Board will retain ownership of the water rights from the Snake River, acquired to supply water to the Base, but will gift the infrastructure to the Air Force. The target completion date is January 2026, officials said.

The 12 AIG grant projects funded by the Water Board are as follows:

1. Bannock Feeder canal, diversion replacement - \$250,000
2. Big Lost dam repair - \$2 million
3. Boise Project Board of Control, New York Canal lining - \$2,418,500
4. Chester Canal & Irrigation Co., diversion headgate - \$29,725



5. Dalton Gardens Irrigation District, delivery improvements - \$23,460
6. Enterprize Canal Company, converting canal to pipeline - \$2,736,227
7. Falls Irrigation District, pump station rehabilitation - \$200,588
8. Fremont Madison Irrigation District, upgrades to diversion structures - \$58,200
9. King Hill Irrigation District, pump station and closed circuit - \$1,980,259
10. Nampa-Meridian Irrigation District, Ridenbaugh Canal rehabilitation - \$1,820,048
11. North Side Pumping Company #2 , pump station and canal abandonment - \$951,800.
12. Water District #63, monitoring system upgrades - \$30,793

The six Water Project Loans funded by the Water Board are as follows:

1. Falls Irrigation District, irrigation system upgrade - \$8,894,500
2. Enterprize Canal Co., rehabilitation of irrigation conveyance systems - \$3,588,856
3. Barber Pool Hydro, bypass rehabilitation - \$850,670
4. Bannock Feeder Canal, diversion replacement - \$335,110
5. Southeast Idaho Canal Company, headgate modernization and automation - \$58,074
6. Chester Canal & Irrigation Company, replacement of headgate structure - \$34,895

Loan increase: Cloverdale Ridge Water Corp., \$36,000 increase for new total of \$92,615 to replace aging pumps and piping infrastructure.

(Please see attached spreadsheets for details about the grant and loans that were approved by the Board).

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## General Manager

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**From:** Miller, Neeley <Neeley.Miller@idwr.idaho.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 16, 2022 10:20 AM  
**To:** General Manager; Blrid@atcnet.net; terripehrson@atcnet.net  
**Subject:** Documentation of BLID Grant Award from IWRB - IWRB Resolution  
**Attachments:** 31-2022ResolutionAgingInfrastructureGrant.pdf

Attached is the resolution passed in September awarding grant funds to the BLID. This can serve as documentation of your grant award until we have a grant contract in place.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Neeley

BEFORE THE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF AGING  
INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

RESOLUTION TO AWARD FUNDS

1 WHEREAS, House Bill 769 passed and approved in 2022 by the Idaho Legislature  
2 appropriated to the IWRB \$75,000,000 to be used for expenditures, loans, or grants for water  
3 projects, including studies, to address water sustainability, rehabilitate or improve aging water  
4 infrastructure or support flood management; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, the legislature provided that no more than one-third of these moneys shall  
7 be used for grants, and directed the IWRB to develop criteria, taking into account the public's  
8 input for the expenditures of money for grants, which shall be competitive, matching grants  
9 that prioritize projects based on the public benefits they provide; and

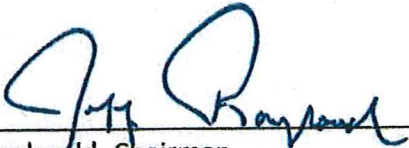
10  
11 WHEREAS, on June 7, 2022 the IWRB adopted criteria for the award of Aging  
12 Infrastructure Grants, and

13  
14 WHEREAS, thirty-one (31) Aging Infrastructure grant applications were received by the  
15 deadline and the applications were evaluated, scored and ranked according to the criteria  
16 adopted by IWRB; and

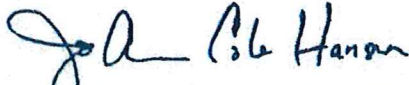
17  
18 WHEREAS, the Finance Committee met and discussed the projects, and recommended  
19 the IWRB approve Aging Infrastructure Grant awards as specified in the attached Application  
20 Ranking Sheet; and

21  
22 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the IWRB approves the award of Aging  
23 Infrastructure Grants as specified in the Application Ranking Sheet attached to this resolution.  
24

DATED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Raybould, Chairman  
Idaho Water Resource Board

ATTEST

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jo Ann Cole-Hansen, Secretary



Aging Infrastructure Application Scoring for Round One							
Entity	Funds Requested	Total Project Costs	Loan Funds Requested	Final Evaluation Score	Final Rankings	Proposed Awarded Funding	
Ada County Barber; Dam Bypass	550,330	1,651,000	\$850,670	80	7		
American Falls Reservoir District; Spillway	2,783,000	12,100,000		Ineligible	-		
Bannock Feeder; Diversion Replacement	250,000	885,110	\$585,000	82	5	250,000	
Big Lost; Dam Repair	2,000,000	9,082,856		84	3	2,000,000	
Big Wood Canal Company; Richfield Drains Headgate	5,900	18,900		77	9		
Blaine County Canal Company; Converting Ditch to Pipeline	246,070	746,070		69	13		
Boise Project Board of Control - New York Canal Lining	2,418,900	7,330,000		84	3	2,418,900	
Boise Warm Springs Water District; Mainline Replacement	1,032,000	3,097,000	\$2,810,000	Ineligible	-		
Burley Irrigation District; Southside Canal Structure	891,000	2,700,000		71	14		
Chester Canal & Irrigation Company; Diversion Headgate	29,725	129,238	\$34,894	93	1	29,725	
City of Salmon City; Waterline Replacement	731,250	2,925,000		Ineligible	-		
Cloverdale Ridge Water Corporation; Efficiency Improvements	11,661	35,335	\$23,675	66	16		
Dalton Gardens Irrigation District; Delivery Improvements	23,460	69,000		68	14	23,460	
Enterprise Canal Company; Converting Canal to Pipeline	2,736,227	8,291,597	\$6,325,083	82	5	2,736,227	
Falls Irrigation District; Pump Station Rehab	3,031,600	9,095,000	\$9,095,000	81	6	200,588	
Fremont Madison Irrigation District; Upgrades to Diversion Structures	58,200	232,874		84	3	58,200	
Gem Soil & Water Conservation District; Irrigation Pipeline	131,620	470,070		Ineligible	-		
Henry's Fork Foundation/Conant Canal Co. Canal Lining & Automation	588,505	2,101,804		76	10		
Idaho Power Company; Spillway	2,783,000	12,100,000		Ineligible	-		
King Hill Irrigation District; Pump Station & Closed Conduit	1,980,259	6,154,187	\$1,500,000	84	3	1,980,259	
Lost Valley; Dam Replacement	4,867,000	9,733,000	\$9,733,000	79	8		
Minidoka Irrigation District; Converting Lateral to Pipeline	76,176	238,048		74	12		
Nampa-Meridian Irrigation District; Ridenbaugh Canal Modernization	3,180,000	9,637,000		83	4	1,820,048	
North Fremont Canal Systems; Converting Canal to Pipeline	6,490,785	19,669,044		72	13		
North Side Pumping Company #1; pump station/canal abandonment	3,526,900	15,334,536		80	7		
North Side Pumping Company #2; pump station/canal abandonment	951,800	4,138,388		82	5	951,800	
Payette Soil & Water Conservation District; Drain Replacement	27,157	82,925	\$55,138	70	15		
Squaw Creek Soil & Water Conservation District; Culvert	4,194	12,709		65	17		
Twin Falls Canal Company #1; Highline Canal Delivery	39,172	118,703		77	9		
Twin Falls Canal Company #2; Highline Canal Lining	270,102	818,491		77	9		
Water District 63; Monitoring System Upgrades	30,793	133,883		85	2	30,793	
<b>Total Funds Requested</b>	<b>41,746,786</b>	<b>139,131,768</b>	<b>\$31,012,460</b>				
						<b>Total:</b>	<b>12,500,000</b>

Grant Budget is \$12.5 million for round one

\*IWRB decision to fund this project because it is the only project in District #1

\*\*Lowest ranked project to be offered funding. Not enough IWRB funds remain to fund entire project. Applicant is being offered partial funding towards this project

\*\*\*IWRB decision to fund lowest ranked project in District #2 at a lower amount to comply with IWRB District limits in the criteria

IWRB District 1	23,460	0.2%
IWRB District 2	6,250,000	50%
IWRB District 3	2,951,800	24%
IWRB District 4	3,274,740	26%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,500,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

No more than 50% of the total budget may be spent within a single IWRB district. This limit may be waived if there are no competing funding demands